(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (e) in the new patent regime, effective from 1st January, 2005, there is no proposal to set up separate courts to deal with issues connected with patents and intellectual property rights. However, in view of the specialised nature of the work, Government has set up an Intellectual Property Appellate Board as an appellate forum against orders of the Registrar of Trade Marks and also the Registrar of Geographical Indications. Its jurisdiction is further proposed to be extended to the decisions of the Controller of Patents under the Indian Patent Act.

Financial assistance for modernisation of police

†308. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI:

PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating to provide full financial assistance for the modernisation of the police forces of the States;

(b) if so, the state-wise details thereof; and

(c) by when the decision is likely to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) A proposal to revise the scheme for modernization of the State Police Forces (MPF Scheme) by categorizing the States into 2 (two) categories "A" & "B" to provide Central funding as 100% and 75% is presently under consideration of the Government. The proposed re-categorization of the States is as under:—

Category "A" (100% Central funding):

Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Category "B" (75% Central funding):

Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Goa, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Sikkim.

Status of products after expiry of EMRs

*309. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Exclusive Marketing Rights (EMRs) were applicable only upto 31st October, 2004;

(b) if so, what are the details of the products and companies for which EMRs were granted by the Patent Office; and

(c) what is the status of these products after the expiry of EMRs and whether they automatically came under the new product patent?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir. The Patents Act, 1970, as amended by the Patents (Amendment) Act, 1999, provided for grant of exclusive marketing rights (EMRs) in the fields of pharmaceuticals and agricultural chemicals on fulfilment of certain conditions for a period of five years or till the product patent is granted or patent application is rejected, whichever is earlier. These provisions have since been omitted with effect from January 01, 2005 by the Patents (Amendment) Ordinance, 2004.

(b) and (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Status of products after expiry of EMRs

(b) The details of the products and companies for which EMRs were granted by the Patent Office are as under:

1. United Phosphorus Ltd., India-Synegistic Fungicidal composition comprising of Carbendazim and Manocozeb (Antifungal Insecticide)

2. Novartis AG, Switzerland-Imatinib Mesylate (Anti tumour agent)